

Iowa Administrative Rules 441 IAC 110.8(2) outlines the requirements for using outdoor space, including swimming or wading pools, on the premises of a Child Development Home (CDH).

- The wading pool shall be drained daily and shall be inaccessible to children when it is not in use.
- An above-ground or in-ground swimming pool that is not fenced shall be covered whenever the pool is not in use. The cover shall meet or exceed the ASTM International (formerly known as the American Society for Testing and Materials) specification intended to reduce the risk of drowning by inhibiting access to the water by children under five years of age.
- An uncovered aboveground swimming pool shall be enclosed with an approved fence that is non-climbable and is at least four feet high.
- An uncovered in-ground swimming pool shall be enclosed with an approved fence that is non-climbable and is at least four feet high and flush with the ground.

If children are allowed to use an above-ground or in-ground swimming pool:

- Written permission from parents shall be available for review.
- Equipment needed to rescue a child or adult shall be readily accessible.
- The child care provider shall accompany the children and provide constant supervision while the children use the pool.
- The child care provider shall complete training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation for infants, toddlers, and children, according to the criteria of the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association.

Additional resources, such as [Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Standards; Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs](#) (CFOC), Chapter 6.3, and [Pool Safely](#), a product of the US Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Child Development Home providers are highly encouraged to write and implement "Touch Supervision" of infants and young children through age four when they are near bodies of water. Touch supervision means always keeping children within arm's reach and in sight. Supervising adults should be CPR-certified and should have a telephone accessible at all times, should emergency services be required."

See: [CFOC Chapter 2: Program Activities for Health Development, Section 2: Supervision and Discipline](#), and [Standard 2.2.04 Supervision Near Bodies of Water](#)

The following are examples of approved pools, fencing, and pool covers:

